

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the third paragraph on page 2 which continues onto page 3 which begins with "In view of the stateless nature" with the following paragraph:

a1  
In view of the stateless nature of the underlying network protocols used to shuttle requests and responses between the client side and the server side, the state of a Web application scenario typically is maintained by the Web application on the server rather than in the client. In order to drive Web scenarios in a testing framework, though, the complete user state also must be managed for the population of users by the load driving mechanism in the client. Hence, the effective testing of Web scenarios can result in the inefficient duplication of the state management effort both in the client and server.

Please replace the third paragraph on page 5 which begins with "Notably, the method can" with the following paragraph:

a2  
Notably, the method can further include intercepting a network response to the invoked operations. Once intercepted, the network response can be forwarded to the network client. Additionally, new state information for the Web application can be retrieved which corresponds to the identity of the network client. Subsequently, the selecting, and invoking steps can be repeated for the new state information.

Please replace the Abstract of the Specification on page 21 with the following paragraph:

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In a Web application testing method, which has been configured in accordance with the present invention, a network message from one of several network clients can be intercepted.

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Session data in the network message can be identified and state information retrieved for the session in the Web application. An operation and corresponding associated parameters can be selected from a Web scenario template based upon the retrieved state information. Finally, operations can be invoked in the Web application, the operations corresponding to the operation and associated operational parameters selected from the Web scenario template.

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